



RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958





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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1 9 5 8

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THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the public health of the Rural District during 1958.

The estimated population furnished by the Registrar General was 24680. The excess of births over deaths during 1958 was 339 and the rate of natural increase is thus 13.7 per 1000 population. There were 483 (245 male and 238 female) live births which give a rate per 1000 population of 26.0 corrected for purposes of comparison with similar rates in other areas. The live birth rate for the administrative county is 18.7 and that for England and Wales 16.4 per 1000 population.

The death rate based on 144 deaths (90 male and 54 female) after correction for comparability is 10.9 per 1000 population. The death rate for England and Wales and for the administrative county respectively was 11.7 and 10.5 per 1000 population.

The deaths at 65 years and over represent 46.5 per cent of the total deaths (144) of which 41 occurred at 75 years and over.

The death rate in infants under one year of age (infant mortality rate) is 18.6 per 1000 live births; there were 9 (6 male and 3 female) such deaths in 483 live births during 1958. The corresponding figures for this rate in the administrative county were 22.8 per 1000 live births and 22.5 per 1000 live births for England and Wales.

The mean infant death rate during the period 1949-1958 was 23.6 per 1000 live births based on an average of 423.1 live births and 10.0 infant deaths during the period.

The neonatal (under 4 weeks of age) deaths numbered 7 (4 male and 3 female) and this gives a rate of 14.5 per 1000 live births.

Of the 9 deaths, all in hospital in infants under one year, four were due to prematurity; and their survival time was 2 hours to 2 weeks; one died from enteritis at 4 months, and one from congenital heart disease at one month; 3 were as the result of difficult labour.

Death rates from special causes gave the following rates per 1000 population, for cancer 1.1; coronary disease 0.6; and for cerebral haemorrhage 0.9.

The proportional mortality rates of principal diseases expressed as a proportion of the total deaths during the year were diseases of the heart and circulation other than coronary disease 15.9 per cent; cancer 18.1 per cent; coronary disease 10.4 per cent; cerebral vascular lesions 16.0 per cent; and pneumonia, bronchitis and influenza 6.9 per cent.

The incidence rates per 1000 population for the following notifiable diseases in the District during 1958 were, scarlet fever 0.2; whooping cough 0.3; respiratory tuberculosis 0.3 and measles 10.1

Notifications of infectious diseases numbered 278 for the District during 1958 including 7 respiratory tuberculosis and 249 measles.

The months of greatest incidence were November and December, 155 notifications were in respect of the age group 5-10 years.

Four hundred and thirty children under 15 years of age completed primary inoculations against diptheria during 1958 in the Rural District; 272 were under one year of age, 117 between 1-5 years and 41 between 5-15 years of age. Three hundred and thirty two re-inoculations were also done in the Rural District during the year. Two hundred and seventy three primary inoculations against whooping cough were also carried out in the Rural District during the year; one hundred and ninety seven of these were under one year of age.

The number of vaccinations against smallpox during the year was three hundred and forty two.

In addition, immunization against poliomyelitis begun in 1956 was carried out in the Rural District during 1958. The precise numbers protected in this way are included in the County aggregate.

The number of live births was 483 in 1958 in the Rural District.

Other relevant data are given in the body of the report which is followed by that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

It gives me great pleasure to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from the staff and all my colleagues at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RODERICK MACKAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

12th May, 1959.

# STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	R. Mackay, M.D., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	I. L. Fisher C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., Cert: Meat and Food Inspector.
Additional Public Health Inspector	R. Wilkinson, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Rodent Operator	R. H. Coombs.

The Medical Officer of Health acts also in that capacity for the other three constituent authorities of the East Wilts United Districts, viz, Marlborough M.B., Pewsey R.D., and Marlborough and Ramsbury R.D., and is responsible for the public health duties imposed by statute upon his office. He holds, in addition, the appointment of assistant County Medical Officer and in this respect carries out on behalf of the County Council duties in connection with the welfare services for which it is mainly responsible.

The Chief Public Health Inspector together with his assistant carries out within the District, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, with whose duties those of the Public Health Inspector are complementary, the statutory duties which are placed upon the authority generally in connection with the public health.

The duties of the Public Health Inspector and the Medical Officer of Health are satisfactorily integrated.

Matters of Public Health are normally dealt with by the General Purposes Committee and Housing Committee of the District Council.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	63455
Number of Parishes						17
Population mid-1958 as estimated by the Registrar						
General	...	...	...	...	...	24680
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	3924
Number of new houses erected in 1958:-						
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	49
By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	72
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£305683
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (estimated)						£1270

## VITAL STATISTICS

					M.	F.	Total
Live Births	...	...	...	...	245	238	483
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	238	230	468
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	7	8	15
Still Births	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Live Birth Rate	...	...	...	...			26.0
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales							16.4
Number of Deaths from all causes	...	...	...	...	90	54	144
Death Rate	...	...	...	...			10.9
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...			11.7
Deaths of Infants under one year:-							
Total	...	...	...	...	6	3	9
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Infant Death Rate per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...			18.6
Infant Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...			22.5

NOTE:

The number of births, still-births and deaths are those registered during 1958 after adjustment has been made for inward and outward transfers.

BIRTH RATE, INFANT DEATH RATE, TOTAL DEATH RATE, 1958

	Amesbury R.D.	Administrative County	England and Wales
Birth Rate (per 1000 popn.) ...	26.0	18.7	16.4
Death Rate (per 1000 popn.) ...	10.9	10.5	11.7
Death Rate of Infants under one year (per 1000 live births)	18.6	22.8	22.5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The total number of infectious diseases notified during 1958 was 278 of which 249 were in respect of measles and 8 for whooping cough. There was no considerable incidence of scarlet fever, food poisoning or dysentery, but sporadic cases of these diseases undoubtedly occur to an extent greater than notification numbers would appear to indicate. Generally, the attacks are so mild as to escape notice almost, and most respond to modern treatment; although, not infrequently, a persistent excretor gives trouble and it is then largely due to the patience and application of the family doctor that the carrier is rendered fit to return to his food handling job perhaps, or even to go back to school.

TUBERCULOSIS

Seven notifications were received in respect of respiratory tuberculosis.

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION

Immunizations against diphtheria, whooping cough, and poliomyelitis are carried out at welfare clinics and at special sessions under the direct control of the County Medical Officer by the County medical staff, and by general medical practitioners who also perform all vaccinations against smallpox.

Two hundred and seventy two infants under one year old were inoculated against diphtheria in 1958 in the Rural District. The number of live births for the same year was 483.

The total number primarily immunized against diphtheria in 1958 in the Rural District was 430.

The following numbers were immunized during the last ten years.

AGE Group (Years)	1949	'50	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56	'57	'58	Total
Under 5	210	172	360	268	190	350	202	297	288	389	2726
5 - 15	124	42	48	55	40	45	57	53	54	41	559
Totals	334	214	408	323	230	395	259	350	342	430	3285

The total number of primary vaccinations performed during the year in the Rural District was 342 of which 284 were under one year of age.

In addition, a total of 273 children were primarily immunized against whooping cough of whom 197 were under one year old, 44 between 1-2 years of age, and 29 between 2-9 years of age.

#### WATER SUPPLY

The Senior Public Health Inspector has outlined in his report the position in regard to the Regional Scheme which was completed during the year in the Bourne Valley, and which it is hoped will be implemented in the near future in the Avon valley thus bringing a piped supply to all but a few properties in the District.

#### FOOD SUPERVISION

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year; and milk production was satisfactory as revealed by routine laboratory tests. Details of the inspections of food premises generally are set out in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

#### SEWERAGE

Existing sewers have proved satisfactory in operation and schemes are in hand at Shrewton; and contemplated for three other populous parishes, as specified in the Senior Public Health Inspector's report.

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Population† .....	24750	21860	25470	24430	24080	26970	24770	25190	24890	24680
Live Births .....	387	389	408	380	420	408	424	475	457	483
	15.6	17.8	16.0	15.6	17.4	15.1	17.1	18.9	18.4	19.6
Still Births .....	6	11	8	8	8	8	13	20	1	4
	15.3	27.5	19.2	20.6	18.7	19.2	29.7	40.4	2.1	8.3
Total Deaths .....	136	130	141	147	110	107	118	142	136	144
	5.5	5.9	5.5	6.0	4.6	4.0	4.8	5.6	5.5	5.8
Infant Deaths.....	9	10	8	8	16	8	9	7	16	9
	23.3	25.7	19.6	21.2	23.8	19.6	21.2	14.7	35.0	18.6
Tuberculosis Deaths .....	4	7	1	3	1	0	1	0	0	1
	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cancer Deaths .....	18	17	28	25	18	18	16	27	26	28
	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.1
Pneumonia Deaths.....	3	5	7	10	8	4	2	5	3	6
	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2

+ Includes armed forces  
N.B. The corresponding rate is given underlined together with the figures on which it is based. With the exception of the infant death rate which is calculated per 1000 live births, and the still birth rate per 1000 total births, the rates given above are computed per 1000 of the population. The birth and death rates are not corrected in this table for area comparability.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1958

AMESBURY R.D.C.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Erysipelas.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	9	41	189	249
Pneumonia.....	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Peurperal pyrexia.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever.....	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough.....	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	8
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	7
Other forms of tuberculosis..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3

Totals.....	4	-	1	3	2	3	6	4	6	12	43	194	278
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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total	0-	Age (years) 1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-
Erysipelas.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles.....	249	5	14	28	26	20	144	11	-	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1
Peurperal pyrexia.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Scarlet fever.....	5	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough.....	8	-	-	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-

Totals.....	268	5	14	29	26	20	155	11	3	3	1	-	1
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AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
CAUSES OF DEATH  
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN, 1958

					M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	--	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	--	--	--
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	--	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	--	--	--
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	--	--	--
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	--	--	--
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	--	--	--
8.	Measles	...	...	...	--	--	--
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	--	--	--
10.	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	...	...	...	2	2	4
11.	" " lung-bronchus	...	...	...	5	--	5
12.	" " breast	...	...	...	--	1	1
13.	" " uterus	...	...	...	--	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	7	9	16
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	--	--	--
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	--	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	8	15	23
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	13	2	15
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	1	4
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	7	4	11
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	2	8
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	--	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	3	6
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	--	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	--	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	--	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	3	--	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	--	--	--
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	1	--	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	7	7	14
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	8	2	10
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	7	--	7
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	--	--	--
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	--	--	--
Total of all causes					90	54	144

RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

A N N U A L       R E P O R T

OF THE

S E N I O R   P U B L I C   H E A L T H

I N S P E C T O R

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 5 8

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my tenth Annual Report of work carried out by the Public Health Department of the Council during the year 1958.

The tables and particulars in the Report are in conformity with requirements of Ministry of Health Circular 22/58 dated 9th December, 1958.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and co-operation given during the year.

It also gives me great pleasure to place on record my appreciation of the help given by the Medical Officer of Health in the discharge of our joint responsibilities, the assistance afforded by the Engineer & Surveyor in the compilation of the information on water supplies, drainage and sewerage, and refuse collection and disposal throughout the District, and to express my thanks to my colleagues in other Departments for their co-operation at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

I. L. FISHER

Senior Public Health Inspector.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

### NUMBER AND NATURE OF VISITS OR INSPECTIONS DURING 1958

#### GENERAL SANITATION.

Number of Inspections re Water Supply .. ..	95	
Number of Inspections re Drainage of Property .. ..	532	
Number of Inspections re Keeping of Animals .. ..	31	
Number of Inspections of Fried Fish Shops .. ..	4	
Number of Inspections of Moveable Dwellings .. ..	133	
Number of Inspections under Factories Act .. ..	26	
Number of Inspections of Outworkers Premises .. ..	3	
Number of Inspections of Workplaces .. ..	2	
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses .. ..	13	
Number of Inspections of Licensed Premises .. ..	1	
Number of Inspections re Refuse Collection and Disposal .. ..	8	
Number of Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 .. ..	10	
Number of Inspections under Diseases of Animals Act (Waste Food Order) .. ..	35	
Number of Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits .. ..	138	
Number of Visits re Sampling of Water Supplies .. ..	361	
Number of Visits re Sampling of Sewage Effluent .. ..	<u>18</u>	1410

#### HOUSING

Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Act .. ..	56	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Reinspections) .. ..	<u>126</u>	182
Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts .. ..	112	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Reinspections) .. ..	<u>762</u>	874
Number of Houses inspected re Overcrowding .. ..	141	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Reinspections) .. ..	<u>19</u>	160
Number of Miscellaneous Housing Visits .. ..		106
Number of Houses inspected re Verminous Conditions .. ..	<u>17</u>	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses .. ..	<u>22</u>	39
Number of Houses inspected under Rent Act .. ..		<u>25</u> 1386
Number of Property Owners/Agents and Builders interviewed .. ..	237	

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease .. ..	4	
Number of Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits .. ..	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>
		2812

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Number of Visits to Poultry Packing Station .. .. .	248	
Number of Visits to Knacker's Yards .. .. .	14	
Number of Visits to Butchers' Shops .. .. .	17	
Number of Visits to Grocers .. .. .	34	
Number of Visits to Dairies and Milkshops .. .. .	34	
Number of Visits to Ice Cream Premises .. .. .	35	
Number of Visits to Food Preparing Premises .. .. .	23	
Number of Miscellaneous Food Visits .. .. .	22	427
		<u>3239</u>

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Inspections of the Factories within the District have shown that conditions are generally satisfactory. A small number of defects of a minor character were found remedied as a result of informal action.

The following is a list of Factories in the District.

Bakers and Confectioners .. .. .	7
Engineering, including Garages .. .. .	20
Electricity Generating .. .. .	1
Joinery, woodworking .. .. .	7
Testing of Flow Meters .. .. .	1
Milk Pasteurising .. .. .	1
Laundering .. .. .	2
Corn Milling .. .. .	1
Manufacture of Explosives .. .. .	1
Vehicle Painting .. .. .	2
Tailoring .. .. .	2
Aircraft Testing .. .. .	1
Instrument Repairs .. .. .	1
Cine Film Camera Testing .. .. .	1
Cinematograph Film Manufacture .. .. .	1
Oil Gas .. .. .	1
Fruit Juice and Bottle Washing .. .. .	1
Upholstery and Furniture Repairs .. .. .	2
Poultry Processing and Packing .. .. .	1
Knackers Yards .. .. .	1
	<u>55</u>

Following the receipt of a notice from H. M. Inspector of Factories as to the insufficiency of the sanitary accommodation at one factory, the Council served a notice upon the occupier requiring him to make the necessary provision.

OUTWORKERS

Three outworkers were notified to the Department by other Authorities during the course of the year, all being engaged in the manufacture of knitted wear. Inspections were made of the premises but no action was found to be necessary.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

During the year seventeen houses were found to be in a verminous condition and all were satisfactorily dealt with by the use of Proprietary Insecticide with residual D.D.T. One case which could have resulted in a major infestation was found to be due to the heavy infestation by bed-bugs of a suite of furniture purchased from a second hand dealer, and this was removed from the premises and destroyed. As a result of prompt action the infestation was limited to one room and was quickly cleared up following the removal of the suite of furniture.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Refuse Collection System has continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year, collections being made once weekly in the larger villages and once fortnightly in the smaller ones. All refuse collected in the District is disposed of at the Council's Refuse Tip at Porton Firs.

The separation of saleable materials such as paper, metal and rags is carried out at the Rêfuse Tip and these articles, together with salvaged Waste Paper, have been sold to contractors.

### HOUSING.

The Council's Building programme has proceeded steadily throughout the year, and in the year under review 72 houses were completed and a further 77 houses were in course of erection at the end of the year. The task of providing adequate and satisfactory housing accommodation is one of which the Council is very conscious and whilst they have erected a total of 772 houses since the War the number of applicants on their Non-Priority Housing List shows no evidence of decreasing. The Council therefore decided to review this List and the Sub-Committees appointed for this purpose reported that the immediate need was for 196 houses and 50 Bungalows.

Another problem which has caused the Council much concern is the rehousing of Service personnel discharged in the District, the housing of civilians employed in Government establishments in the District, and those affected by the War Department's clearance schemes. The Council therefore decided to inform the Air Ministry, the War Department, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and the Ministry of Supply of their difficulties in providing accommodation for these classes and invited the four Departments to send representatives to a conference to discuss the matter, and their acceptance of this invitation was awaited at the end of the year.

In addition to the houses erected by the Council during the year, a further 49 houses were erected by private enterprise and 37 more were in course of erection.

The work of dealing with the properties included in the Council's five year slum clearance programme has proceeded throughout the year and a number of families from these properties have been rehoused. At the end of the year a total of 53 houses originally included in the programme remained to be dealt with.

The steady flow of applications for Improvement Grants has continued and during the year twenty four applications involving forty five properties were considered by the Council. Of these, twenty two applications in respect of forty three houses were approved, and two applications in respect of two houses were refused, whilst one owner, although carrying out the works, withdrew his application after it had been approved by the Council. The results achieved in this field add considerably to the Council's aim of providing houses of a satisfactory standard and the time devoted to this work by the Department is well worth while.

The following table shows the action taken by the Department under the Housing and Public Health Acts during the year.

(i)	Inspected for housing defects under Public Health	
	Acts .. .. .	56
(ii)	Inspected for housing defects under Housing	
	Acts .. .. .	112
(iii)	Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation .. .. .	16
(iv)	Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation .. .. .	118
Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action .. .. .		45

#### Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10, 16, Housing Act, 1936, and sections 9, 10, 12, Housing Act, 1957.

- (i) Number of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .
- (ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal notices
  - (a) By owners .. .. .
  - (b) By local authority in default of owners .. .. .

## B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i)	Number of dwellings where formal notices were served ..	6
(ii)	Number of dwellings made fit as result of formal notices.	
(a)	By owners .. .. .	14
(b)	By local authority in default of owners .. .. .	-

## C. Proceedings under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and Section 16, Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of Demolition Orders made .. .. .	10
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders .. .. .	18 X
(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted .. .. .	2
(iv)	Number of undertakings completed .. .. .	1

## D. Proceedings under Sections 42, 43, 46, 48, Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of houses in clearance area upon which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	-
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders .. .. .	-
(iii)	Number of houses in clearance area which have been retained as temporary accommodation .. .. .	-

## E. Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936, Section 3, Housing Act, 1949, Section 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Sections 17, 18, 27, Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made ..	1
(ii)	Number of dwellings closed as result of closing Orders or undertakings by owners .. .. .	1
(iii)	Number of dwellings where closing orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit ..	-

## F. Proceedings under Section 57, Housing Act, 1936, Section 76, Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year .. .. .	10
(ii)	Number of cases of overcrowding abated during year ..	6

X Includes 3 houses demolished voluntarily or in anticipation of Demolition Orders.

## RODENT CONTROL

The control measures recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are closely followed by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

All complaints received have been investigated and dealt with promptly and the work carried out during the year was efficient and satisfactory.

The systematic survey of the District has continued, and has shown that the general overall situation is satisfactory, and in no instance has a major infestation been found. This is, no doubt, due to the appreciation of the public of the necessity for dealing with rats and mice, but careful observation is being kept to ensure that complacency does not result in the situation deteriorating. With this object in mind the Council, on being notified of the impending withdrawal of the Contract service operated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, circularised the occupiers of all agricultural properties in the District, and expressed the hope that the work of destroying rats and mice on their properties would not suffer through the withdrawal of that Service, but that the work would continue abated, and offering all assistance to them.

The following table sets out the work carried out by the Rodent Operator during the year:-

	L. A.	Dwell- ing Houses	All Other	Total of Cols (1) (2) & (3)	Agric.
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	16	3924	154	4082	127
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	-	57	12	69	2
(b) Survey under the Act	4	1234	70	1308	86
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	7	-	7	-
3. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections.	15	1312	85	1412	88
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by:					
Rats: Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	4	150	9	163	36
Mice: Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	2	3	5	1
5. Number of infested properties (in Sect. 2) treated by the L.A.	4	112	12	128	2
6. Total treatments carried out including retreatments	15	126	15	156	2
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Legal proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

## WATER SUPPLY

### REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY

During the year the work of laying water mains in the Bourne Valley with the spur to the Firs Road area, the construction of the reservoir at Earls Farm Down, the Pumping Station at Newton Tony and the Booster Station at East Gomeldon, and also the laying of water mains to serve the Parishes of Orcheston and Winterbourne Stoke were completed. As a result of this work, all Parishes in the District, with the exception of Durnford, Wilsford and Woodford, and Cholderton which is supplied by the Cholderton Water Compnay, are now supplied with piped water from pure supplies owned and operated by the Council, or from Government Department supplies. Of the total population of the district, it is estimated that approximately 23,200 persons are now supplied with piped water. The Council has also decided to make application to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for consent to lay water mains in the Avon Valley to supply the Parishes of Durnford, Wilsford and Woodford, and when this work has been completed all properties in the District, with the exception of a very small number of isolated properties to which it would not be economic to take a supply, will be supplied with piped water.

The extension of the Council's Undertakings has made it possible to dispense with a number of individual housing estate supplies in the villages of Newton Tony, Allington, Idmiston, Winterbourne, Orcheston and Winterbourne Stoke, in addition to the two private supplies previously serving the Firs Road area.

When the Newton Tony source was brought into use it became unnecessary to operate the pumping plant at Amesbury, which is being kept as a standby station for use in an emergency.

The amount of water which can be supplied from Newton Tony is such that even the great demand for water in Amesbury during dry weather will not approach the maximum pumping capacity of the plant.

Regular samples of the raw and treated water have been submitted for Bacteriological and Chemical examination, the results being as follows:-

Physical Characters.....	A clear colourless water. No deposit.
CHEMICAL.....	Parts per million.
Reaction.....	Alkaline pH 7.2
Saline and free Ammonia.....	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia.....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 37 degrees C .....	0.03
Chlorides.....	18
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen).....	2.5
Total Hardness.....	222
(a) Temporary.....	167
(b) Permanent.....	55
Metals.....	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen).....	Nil

### BACTERIOLOGICAL

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days,  
37°C..... Nil..... per 100 ml.  
Probable number of Bact. coli..... Nil..... per 100 ml.

### OPINION

Chemical examinations satisfactory. Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of pollution.

## BULFORD AND DURRINGTON.

This supply has continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year and the supply is no longer used to augment the supply at Amesbury.

Small extensions have been made of this supply to serve the Council's new Housing Estate.

The results of Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of this supply are given below:-

Physical Characters..... A clear colourless water. No deposit.

CHEMICAL.....	parts per million.
Reaction.....	Alkaline pH 7.1
Saline and free Ammonia.....	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia.....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 37 degrees C.....	0.10
Chlorides.....	.22
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen).....	.10
Total Hardness.....	.233
(a) Temporary.....	.149
(b) Permanent.....	.84
Poisonous Metals.....	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen).....	Nil

## BACTERIOLOGICAL

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C..... Nil..... per 100 ml.  
Probable number of Bact. coli (type 1).... Nil..... per 100 ml.

## OPINION

Chemical examination satisfactory. Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of pollution.

## SHREWTON.

With the installation of the duplicate pumping equipment and the bringing into use of the new borehole the concern expressed in previous years reports regarding this supply no longer exists. The Council has decided to make application to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government for consent to construct the new reservoir at Shrewton which will greatly augment the existing storage capacity for the Parishes of Shrewton, Orcheston and Winterbourne Stoke, and enable Tilshead to be supplied from the Council's Undertaking at a future date.

Samples of water have been taken regularly for Bacteriological and Chemical examination and the results are set out below:-

Physical Characters..... A clear colourless water. No deposit.

CHEMICAL.....	parts per million.
Reaction.....	Alkaline pH 7.5
Saline and free Ammonia.....	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia.....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 37 degrees C.....	0.03
Chlorides.....	.16
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen).....	.10
Total Hardness.....	.230
(a) Temporary.....	.161
(b) Permanent.....	.69
Poisonous Metals.....	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen).....	Nil

## BACTERIOLOGICAL

Probable number of bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C...Nil...per 100 ml.  
Probable number of Bact. coli (type 1).....Nil...per 100 ml.

## OPINION

Chemical examination satisfactory. Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of pollution.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

### AMESBURY.

This scheme has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

Samples of the effluent have been taken regularly during the year and submitted for Bacteriological examination and all have proved satisfactory.

Following the visit of a deputation to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government the Minister has given his consent to the laying of the sewers to serve Countess Road, Amesbury, and work was expected to commence early in 1959.

### BULFORD AND DURRINGTON.

This scheme has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

A number of small extensions have been made to this system to serve the Council's new Housing Estate.

### SHREWTON

Following the receipt of the consent of the Minister of Housing and Local Government the Council immediately proceeded with the invitation of tenders for carrying out the sewerage of Shrewton, and the Contractors were ready to commence this work at the end of the year. The urgency of this scheme has been stressed in reports for many years and its completion will solve the difficulties which have hitherto existed in the satisfactory disposal of waste matters.

### OTHER SCHEMES

At the end of the year the Council also had under active consideration the provision of Sewerage Schemes for the Parishes of Figheledean, Winterbourne and Tilshead.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There is still a great demand for Moveable Dwellings as housing accommodation particularly in and around the Parish of Amesbury. This demand is partly due to the shortage of permanent housing accommodation and to the fact that it is also a convenient form of accommodation for Married Service and Government Department personnel who are unable to obtain Service Quarters and are not going to be stationed in the District for any great length of time.

With the bringing into use of the new site in Holders Road, Amesbury, a number of caravans from the unsatisfactory site at Kitchener Road were removed to the new site. The Kitchener Road area is now being developed for permanent housing accommodation, and the few remaining Moveable Dwellings on this land will be removed as the development takes place.

In other parts of the District, Moveable Dwellings are mostly used as single units and regular inspections have revealed conditions to be generally satisfactory.

## MILK SUPPLY

The supply of milk throughout the District has been satisfactory during the year, most of the milk consumed being Pasteurised and supplied from the Milk Factory situated at Amesbury.

Regular inspections have been made of this establishment and eighty samples were submitted for bottle washings tests during the year, all proving satisfactory.

Samples of Milk have been taken throughout the year from all the Distributors and at farms from which small quantities of milk are sold. A total of 272 samples were submitted for the Statutory Tests and for Biological examination, the majority proving satisfactory. In one case where raw milk is sold, organisms of *Brucella Abortus* were isolated, and further visits were made to the premises, for the purpose of obtaining samples of milk from each cow in the herd to determine the source of infection. Until the results were known the producer co-operated by sending the milk for pasteurisation and also called in his Veterinary Surgeon.

Within the District there are:-

Registered Milk Distributors.....	10
Registered Dairies.....	1
Dealers Licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.....	10
Dealers Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk.....	10

## SLAUGHTER HOUSES

There are no slaughter houses in the District for the slaughter of animals for human consumption, all killing being done in the Abattoir in the City of Salisbury.

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard in the District and on periodic visits to the premises conditions have been found to be satisfactory.

Daily visits have been made to the Poultry Packing Station at Amesbury for the purpose of inspecting the poultry killed, prepared and packed at this establishment.

## ICE CREAM PREMISES

There is no manufacture of ice-cream in the District. Eighty premises are registered for the Sale and/or Storage of ice-cream and routine inspections have revealed that the Regulations are being complied with.

## FOOD PREMISES

The inspection of food premises in the district has continued systematically throughout the year and the general standard, particularly in the larger Parishes where all mains services are available, is satisfactory. With the provision of a piped water supply to a number of the smaller Parishes, premises hitherto served by shallow wells of doubtful quality have now been provided with a satisfactory supply of water.

The number and type of food premises in the area are shown in the following table.

Hotels and Licensed Premises.....	38
Grocers.....	39
Bakers.....	7
Butchers.....	8
Cafes and Restaurants.....	9
Confectionery.....	16

Greengrocery.....	3
Fried Fish.....	3
Fishmonger.....	1
Poultry Packing Station.....	1
	<u>125</u>

#### FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is as follows:-

Storage and/or Sale of Ice-Cream.....	80
Sausage Making.....	9

During the year a complaint was received concerning the presence of a foreign body in an article of food, and after giving careful consideration to the facts the Council sent a Warning Letter to the Firm concerned.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1958

Pork.....	333 lbs
Cooked Ham (Canned).....	20 lbs
Ducks.....	1
Chickens.....	1705
Poussins.....	205
Apricot Pulp.....	10 lbs
Pineapple Pulp.....	7 lbs
Water Cress.....	30 lbs

#### DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

As from the 1st January, 1958, the Council acting under delegated power from the Wiltshire County Council assumed responsibility for executing and enforcing the provisions of the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957. By the end of the year fourteen premises in the District were licensed for the boiling of waste foods, and periodic inspections of these premises revealed that the requirements of the Order were being observed.





